

## **Quarterly Progress Report FOR USAID VIETNAM**

### **I. Name of Grant**

1. Name of Grantee: Health Volunteers Overseas (HVO)
2. Grant Number: 492-G-00-98-00011-00
3. Title of Project: Vietnam Rehabilitation Project
4. Date of Report Submission: 25 January, 2006
5. Reporting Period: 1 October - 31 December, 2005

### **II. Goals, Objectives and Progress to date**

#### **1. Summarized table of achievements**

**Objective 1:** Support the activities of the Disability Forum

<b>Outputs/Activities</b>	<b>Indicator</b>	<b>Overall target</b>	<b>Quarterly target</b>	<b>Quarterly achievement</b>	<b>Achievement to-date</b>
DF becomes an independent local organization	- Legal status as a local NGO obtained - Bank account opened	To have legal status by early 2006	Find an appropriate host association and contact MOHA	SEARAV accepted the application; sent to MOHA for approval	Ok, in line with the target, but delayed by New Year and Tet season
Capacity building for DF staff	Staff of the Forum work independently with minimum supervision from HVO	- 2 DF will continue to be employed by the new local organization - Senior staff manage and run the new organization smoothly	N/A	N/A	All staff trained in the seven management skills. One staff is trained in problem-solving skills
Management and administration training	- 100% of trainees understand management concepts - 75% trainees rate	- 5 boards of provincial associations are trained after gaining legal status - 2-3 developed in-house	Work with consultant to formulate 1-year training plan	On target - Training plan has been finalized	3 training courses conducted, on target

	<p>courses as useful</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Increased number of trained leaders of SHGs</li> </ul>	<p>trainers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-100 board members feel more confident to manage their associations and understand management concepts</li> </ul>			
Organize national meetings on relevant topics related to disabilities issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Increase participation of PWDs in choosing topics and organizing tasks to 100%</li> <li>- All members of DF understand development and legislation issues relating to disability</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 6 conferences/ meetings with total of 300 participants</li> <li>- At least 4 workshops/ conferences organized by provincial self-help groups</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Conduct one workshop on Action for Development and MDG, Northern provinces</li> <li>- Support provincial groups' Dec 3 seminars &amp; attendance at Hanoi event</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Forty PWD leaders participated in the workshop, standards for mainstreaming disability for donors and NGOs were established</li> <li>- Vinh Bao organized a provincial seminar.</li> <li>- Three provincial groups came to the Hanoi event</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Four workshops have been organized, in line with target</li> <li>- One provincial SHG organized their own event</li> </ul>
Support distribution of Monthly Updates and other publications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Monthly Updates are emailed, regular mailed and posted on website every month</li> <li>- Increase number of subscribers to email list to 700</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 12 Monthly Updates annually</li> <li>- 700 subscribers on email distribution list</li> <li>- 1,000 manuals for self-help groups, and other materials on barrier-free environment are distributed</li> </ul>	Print 1,000 "how-to" manuals on management of Self-help Groups	Over target. Higher demand required printing of 1,500 manuals	- 460 subscribers on disability-vn list
Expanding activities of DF and enhancing its status in country	Increased membership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Updated directories of local and foreign organizations</li> <li>- A fixed subscribers structure</li> </ul>	Updated directories in two languages	English version of SHGs list in production	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 20 INGOs and 58 local SHGs in line with the target</li> <li>- New assn in Dalat</li> <li>- 2 committees approved in Ha Nam &amp; Hanoi</li> </ul>
Other training courses/events as	1 per quarter	1 training or event every quarter	Above target	- Dec 3 event successful, special	Above target

required				speakers invited	
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**Objective 2:** Support VIETCOT students in the one-year orthotics specialty course

Outputs/Activities	Indicator	Overall target	Quarterly target	Quarterly achievement	Achievement to-date
15 students have adequate meals and accommodation	Good service provided	All students will graduate & be employed as orthotists	All students have housing contracts for the clinical placement period	On target Dormitory arranged for the 1 <sup>st</sup> quarter of '06	On target. Students due to graduate in March
Clinical placement for 6 months	Arranged upon successful course completion	All students pass the final exam	N/A	Schedule revision results in early completion in March	Viet Duc, Hai Phong and VIETCOT selected as clinical placement sites.
Toolkits provided to graduates after clinical placement	All students receive toolkits	Students report to work with tools	Purchase and assemble tool kits	Finished. Tool kits ready for distribution	On target

**Objective 3:** Strengthen university linkages

Outputs/Activities	Indicator	Overall target	Quarterly target	Quarterly achievement	Achievement to-date
Provide advanced training for nurses in Hue Medical U.	All nursing staff attend and will develop teaching skills in theory and research	On-going professional contact among nurses	No activities this quarter	N/A	PSBN established, national coordinator named
Conduct 2, 3 workshops on nursing issues	All nursing staff attend and will develop teaching skills in theory and research	100 nurses and other medical staff, students will receive Temple U. training	Preparation for March 2006 workshop in Hue	On target	Sixty nurses, students, staff received training
Donate manikin,	Donation used to	Improve equipment	Canvass local	Supplier selected,	One LCD projector

teaching aids, to skills labs	improve quality of learning	inventory in new skills labs	suppliers	purchase postponed this quarter	and notebook computer delivered
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**Objective 4:** Develop professional capacities of nurses, PTs and physicians

Outputs/Activities	Indicator	Overall target	Quarterly target	Quarterly achievement	Achievement to-date
Develop knowledge base and teaching skills of faculties in HCMC & Danang	Increased knowledge base reflected in higher test scores	Health professionals' skills, knowledge, and networks will be enhanced	N/A	On target	On target
Clinical instructors & faculty receive in-service training in PT	Increased knowledge base reflected in higher test scores	- 4 trainings in PNF offered for PT students in HCMC - All trainings will be repeated by local trainers	N/A	N/A	Courses were taught by international experts. Repeat courses to be taught by local faculty
Send professionals to attend conferences, events	International contacts will be encouraged with PTs in the region	- One PT leader will attend WCPT conference - At least two international specialists will attend ASCON 2005	- 1 nurse attends Seoul conference - Specialists attend ASCON conference	- Nurse attended WCPT conference - 2 MDs from US presented papers, 4 participants from Danang (PTs & MDs) sponsored	On target
Training for health care providers in spinal cord injuries with HI & others	All trainees understand the process of care for SCI patients	Improve awareness & care for spinal cord injury through coordination with other agencies	N/A	N/A	On target

**Objective 5:** Improve quality of care and management at Danang Rehab Center, through PSBH

Outputs/Activities	Indicator	Overall target	Quarterly target	Quarterly	Achievement to-
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				<b>achievement</b>	<b>date</b>
Improve diagnosis for CP & CVA patients	Better classification of CP patients	Rehab doctors are able to accurately diagnose CP patients for type	Routine monthly reporting	Few CP patients, minimal activity	On target
Standardize MIS for patient records	A computerized system to manage records established	- All patients' history and visits are recorded in the computer system - All patients receive hospital ID cards	- Procure and install computer system - Train staff in use of "Medisoft"	- Installation of wireless local network completed - Action plan for training formulated	On target MIS coordinator (herself a PWD) hired by the Center
Implement individual problem solving activities	100% PoAs being implemented and sustained 100% staff understand and use problem solving skills in their works	- All plans of action have been implemented and sustained - 30 staff of DRC & Hospital C are problem solvers - DRC will be designated Problem-Solving Hospital - 2-3 developed facilitators	Conduct regular monthly monitoring	All plans of action (except 2) being implemented. Monthly reports completed and translated, sent to Jakarta consultant	On target Innovative projects include patient education in easy-to-remember rhyming verses
Content experts visit 4 times/year or as needed	Positive response from staff reflected in assessment surveys	All teams improve technical skills in patient care	Regular visit	- 1 CVA specialist and speech therapist visited - Planned Jan visit postponed until April	On target. CVA and CP focus to be reviewed
Monthly monitoring of activities	Monthly progress reports are sent	Good and effective monitoring procedure	System in place	Monthly reports posted on the internet	On target

## 2. Summary of progress taken

In line with the recommendations contained in a recent evaluation of the Disability Forum, a decision was reached this quarter to abandon the effort to establish an association as a replacement for the Forum. Instead, options for legalizing a local NGO were explored. Both of the established "host" or "umbrella" organizations, VUSTA and SEARAV, were approached. Although SEARAV eventually approved the Forum's application for membership, problems were encountered at the next step in the process. Ministry of Home Affairs officials have so far refused to sign.

It is not clear at this point why they are reluctant to cooperate, internal problems with SEARAV being one possibility. In the first quarter of 2006, we will investigate other options for incorporation.

The Bright Future group reports that they have finally been successful in obtaining People's Committee approval of their mobilizing committee for a proposed city association of people with disabilities. The nature of the prospective group is as yet unclear.

The final group of VIETCOT students continue in their "clinical placement" activities. Their final exams and graduation will coincide with a major international conference the week of April 3. Top officials of ISPO are on the list of presenters as well as several HVO volunteer physicians and physical therapists. HVO Executive Director Nancy Kelly plans to attend, as does LWVF Manager Lloyd Feinberg.

The linkage between Temple and Hue Medical University saw no activities this quarter, but a follow-up training event is scheduled for the week of March 6. Facilitators provided by Dreyfus Health Foundation and HVO volunteers will then conduct a one-day event in Danang as a continuation of the "Problem-Solving for Better Hospitals" project there.

### **3. Impact**

Concrete steps were taken during the quarter to reorganize the Disability Forum into two distinct sections – one managed by INGOs under the auspices of the VUFO-NGO Resource Centre and one locally-managed to focus on PWD groups and their particular interests. Five NGOs have expressed interest in participating in a "Core Group" to serve as rotating Chair of the group re-named the Disability Working Group. The first management meeting is scheduled for February 16.

Project Manager Linda James visited in late October and was able to meet with MOLISA, NCCD, USAID, several NGOs, the Disability Forum staff and committee members to assess the present situation. She spent time with the staff at Danang Rehabilitation Center to get a better understanding of their "Problem-Solving for Better Hospitals" activities and was pleased to see the progress made on those.

### **4. Constraints**

The clear constraint on establishing a viable local institution remains the reluctance of officials to permit implementation of the new provisions for civil society. Even the authors of Decree 88 and other key legislation seem not to understand the concept of citizens groups which are not managed and controlled by government agencies. A related constraint is the traditional attitude that people with disabilities require care and protection rather than training and empowerment.

Indications are that the new “association” proposed by Bright Future will likely be controlled by non-disabled people, for example.

### **5. Issues or Upcoming Events for which you’d like USAID’s Support?**

None anticipated. Planning for National PWD Day on April 18 will begin next quarter. The US Ambassador might be invited to speak again this year.

### **III. Expenditures**

Submitted separately.

### **IV. Plan of Action for the next quarter**

Efforts to convert the service-rendering part of the Disability Forum into a permanent local institution will continue, several alternatives to VUSTA and SEARAV to be explored and negotiations with MOHA are on-going. At the same time, the Core Group of NGOs will take over the hosting of regular information-sharing meetings. Neither of the two groups will enroll “members”, so both NGO representatives and PWDs will be welcome to participate in the activities of both groups.

The very successful implementation of the forum on participation of PWDs in development and achievement of MDGs for northern provinces has resulted in strong demand for a repeat event in the South. In combination with the first management training event in Danang, a second MDG forum will be conducted in Ho Chi Minh City in January.

A joint project between UNV and HVO will also be inaugurated in the first quarter. *Self-Help Groups and other Volunteers: Attaining the Millennium Development Goals* will tackle a set of inter-related objectives, including support for disability self-help groups and other volunteers, poverty reduction and gender equality, and raising public awareness on the link between disability issues and the Millennium Development Goals. The project proposal was developed by HVO’s Project Coordinator, Vu Thi Binh Minh, and funded for \$49,500. As part of the project, VSO (Volunteers in Service Overseas) will assign a volunteer to the project, a contribution estimated at \$20,000.

The American Chamber of Commerce (Amcham) continues to support the on-going “Good for Business” project, an activity of the Disability Forum. A very successful annual gala in December allowed them to double their annual commitment to the project in 2006. The recent

\$10,000 contribution to the Disability Forum will support a number of new activities including networking events between Amcham employers and PWD job seekers, as part of the “Good for Business” project.

## **V. Data collection:**

Workshop on Action for Development & MDGs: 40 PWD leaders

Vinh Bao provincial seminar: 70 participants

December 3 Diversity Day celebration: 2,000 participants

Quality management visit: 25 staff members

## **ACRONYMS:**

APCD:	Asia-Pacific Development Center on Disability
ISPO:	International Society for Prosthetics & Orthotics
JICA:	Japan International Cooperation Agency
MCNV:	Medical Committee of Netherlands, Vietnam
MOH:	Ministry of Health
MOLISA:	Ministry of Labor, Invalids, and Social Affairs
NCCD:	National Coordinating Committee for Disabilities
PWD:	People with Disabilities
TAG:	HVO’s Technical Advisory Group
VIETCOT:	Vietnamese Training Centre for Orthopaedic Technologists
VINAREHA:	Vietnam Rehabilitation Association
VNA:	Vietnam Nurses’ Association
VNAH:	Vietnam Assistance for the Handicapped
VVAF:	Vietnam Veterans’ of America Foundation



